Not to be destroyed.
Keep Permanent.

Secret

File No. 10(69)-PI/47

Collection No.

1947.

Ministry of External Affairs
+ Commonwealth Relations
Protocol Branch

~~Pres.~~ Serial Nos. (1) to (11) only.

Subject.

Adaptation of the National Flag for various uses.

Previous References.	Later References.
F.25(11)-PI/47	

NAIDLF01051749

(Unbleached).

PC—52—597 (Genl) MFP—(6863/A/M-387) 3-7-46—25,00,000.

Ministry of External Affairs and C.R.

2

D.No. 4531-Pt/47 (1)

1. This Ministry is concerned with the adaptation of the 'National flag' for the Embassies, ~~xxx~~ Consulates and other diplomatic offices of the Indian Dominion established abroad.

Res pages 1-2 F.25(11)-Pt/47

2. As a result of discussions in the file placed below, it was decided that our Foreign Service does not need any modified form of India's flag i.e. our Embassies and Consulates should fly the 'National flag' without any distinguishing embellishments.

3. The following comments are offered on ~~xxx~~ other points under consideration :

(1) Sizes of the flag.- ~~[illegible]~~

As regards ~~[illegible]~~ the sizes of the flag to be flown by various diplomatic and Consular representatives, it is suggested that the Ambassadors and High Commissioners, in conformity with their dignity and status, may fly the flag of the size that may be prescribed for Provincial Governors (~~[illegible]~~ (21' x 14' was provisionally prescribed by the Ministry of Home Affairs vide their circular letter No. 87/47-Public (B), D/- the 29th July 1947)

17 corres. ibid

A distinction may be made regarding the sizes of the flag to be flown by our Consuls General and other junior Consular officers. The Consul General may fly the flag of the size used by High Courts, Chief Courts etc. (~~[illegible]~~ 12' x 9' was provisionally fixed by the Home Ministry's letter mentioned above). The junior Consular Officers such as Consuls and Vice-Consuls may fly the flag of the size fixed for Chief Commissioners, Commissioners of Divisions, Deputy Commissioners or Collectors (~~[illegible]~~ 6' x 4' was provisionally fixed by the Home Ministry's letter mentioned above)

In countries where the Consul or Vice-Consul has no superintending Consul General, he may fly the Consul General's flag.

(2) Rules for prescription of premises and occasions on which and the officials by whom the 'National flag' should be flown'.-

1. The flag on the building of the Embassy, Consulate and other diplomatic or quasi-diplomatic Missions ~~[illegible]~~ may be flown throughout the year.

2. Only the Heads of Missions may be allowed to fly the flag on their official residence. Other officials of the Mission may fly the flag only on ceremonial occasions such as National festivals or any other days of importance which may be so declared by the Govt. of India.

3. When the Ambassador is out of his headquarters, the flag at his residence may be hauled down.

4. Only the Heads of Missions should be allowed to fly flags on the

bonnet of their cars.

5. Indian subjects resident abroad may fly the 'National flag' on land, unless the Municipal Law of the Foreign State in which they reside prohibits the use of foreign flags.

(from pre-page)

Al
4.11.47.

OVR
4.11.47

AS(PT)

1. Some sort of distinction might be drawn between the relative importance of Ambassadors, Ministers and High Commissioners in that order.

2. A ~~distinction~~ head of a mission might be allowed to fly a flag at his residence as long as he is at headquarters to indicate the fact, whereas the office should only have a flag on specified occasions, (i.e. national festivals) which will presumably be laid down by the ~~Constituent~~ Assembly, or the Ministry of Home Affairs.

3. The flag suggested for Consuls-General (12'x9') does not have the same proportions as the others (21'x14' and 6'x4'): this cannot be right.

G. J. Malik.
6.11.1947.

F.R. and notes from page 1. I feel that if the Committee referred to in paragraph 2 of the F.R. has before it the material asked for in our communications to our Embassies at Washington, Moscow and Nanking dated the 7th* October 1947 and the 5th** November 1947, it would be in a position to reach ~~a~~ tentative conclusions in the light of international practice. I explained the position on these lines to Mr. Gaynor, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, and understood him to say that in the circumstances he would agree to have the date for the meeting of the Committee postponed until after the replies are received. At the same

~~* Slip 'M', linked file.~~

~~**Corr. p./2 of linked file.~~

(4)

time we should remind the Embassies concerned to expedite their replies to the communications referred to. A draft reminder to them and an O.M. to the Ministry of Home Affairs are submitted.

T. J. Natarajan
(T.J. Natarajan.)
10.11.1947.

R. A. Saksena
10.11.47

(FR & [illegible] F-1)

J.S.(4)

AS (PH)
[illegible]
14/11

S. Nos (2)-(3) Issues

D. No. 4620-PH/47 (4).

Seen. File with pp.
Sd. T. J. Natarajan
14.11.47.

D. No. 4653-PH/47 (5).

For information only. Replies from Indian Embassies at Moscow and Nanking may ~~also~~ be awaited. (No need to trouble A.S.)

18.11.47.

18.11.47.

D. No. 4682-PH/47 (6).

For information only at present.
A copy of our letter dt. the 5th November may

(S)

4687
6-12

be sent to the Embassy. Draft submitted for approval.

T. Imtiaz[illegible]
20/11/47

20.11.47.

20.11.47

ASCPT)

S. No. (7) Issue

Reference S. Nos. (2), (5) & (6). Draft telegraphic reminders to the ~~Indian~~ Embassies at Moscow and Nanking is submitted. After issue, Ministry of Home Affairs may see notes on pages 1–3 ante.

T. Imtiaz[illegible]
8.12.47

8.12.47

8.12.47

(8) - Issue

4680
~~4560~~/47 — Pub. B
10-12-47

~~ASCPT)~~

(7) Ministry of Home Affairs (Mr. Gaynor)

9/12

AS(C)

Ministry of EA & CR u.o. No. D.4682 - Pt/47 dt: 9. XII. 47.

Pub (B)

Ministry of Home Affairs

D.S(G) may please see notes at pp. 1-3 ante. Replies from Moscow and Nanking are yet due. We may therefore reasonably hold the meeting in Jany next as suggested separately on our file. The suggestions as to what flags should be flown on embassies etc could be brought before the meeting!

A V Raman
10.12.47

u.o. D. 798-C.A/48

D. 196-Pt/48

PTAM

D.S(G)

Seen thanks. Nanking have sent a note (I understand on the subject addressed to the Ministry of Home Affairs. Office should look out for this and put it up as soon as it is received).

10.12.47

This is in Min. u.o. [illegible] dt 10.1.48

Pub (B)

~~Public (B)~~

EA & CR Ministry u.o. D.4660/47 - Dated 12.1.48

~~5~~ ⑥

(Ministry of F.A. & C.R.)

Reference notes from p. 4 ante. The 'National Flag Committee' meeting was held on the 16th January 1948. Its minutes may be awaited. [No need to trouble A.S.(PH)]

20.1.48.

20.1.48.

Dy No 507-PT/48: ⑨

✓ on F.25(11)-PT/47

We are concerned only with para. 8 of the minutes of the inter-Ministerial meeting. The decision contained therein accords with that taken by us earlier. We may inform ~~that~~ the Ministry of Home Affairs that we have no comments on the minutes. Draft O.M. submitted.

13.2.48

13.2.48.

~~A.S.(PT)~~

18/2 ~~A.S.(G)~~

J.S.(C)

R. R. Saksena
14.2.48

S.No.(10) Issue

Ministry of F.A. & C.R. (7)

D. No. 5047-PH/47 (11)

For information only. The main file on the subject has been referred to the Ministry of Home Affairs on 20.12.47 under u/o No. 5046-PH/47. Will be added to the main file on receipt.

23.12.47

23.12.47.

23.12.47

J S (C)

R. R. Saksena
23.12.47

Not traceable.

~~Asstt.~~

D.S.
23/12

AS(PT)

Mr. S
28/12

Mr. G
27/12

Awt (1 month)

Refer to PT

13/8

PT

Mr. M
14/8

Await one month

24-8-48

Await 1 month
29-9-48

Await 1 month
1-11-48

Await 1 month
14-12-48

Record 1 month

28/8/49

(1) D.4531-Pl/47

JS(C)

3/XI

4/11

IMMEDIATE.

F.A. & e-R

No:87/2/47-Pub(B).
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

NEW DELHI-3, the ~~1st~~ 2nd November,194

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

Subject:- National Flag.

The National Flag of the Indian Dominion has been designed by the Constituent Assembly of India, but it is for the Government of India, in the appropriate Ministries concerned, to take up modifications of the National Flag for the various uses of its different administrative units, such as the Army, Navy etc., and to frame necessary rules and regulations for the use of the Flag and the prevention of its abuse. The following points are therefore for urgent consideration:-

(1) The adaptation of the National Flag for the use e.g. of:-

- (a) civilians;
- (b) the Army, the Navy, the Air Force;
- (c) the merchant shipping (or Mercantile Marine);
- (d) the Governor-General, the Governors, the Prime Minister of the Dominion and other high ranking officers;
- (e) the Acceding States of the Indian Dominion;
- (f) the Embassies, the Consulates and other diplomatic offices of the Indian Dominion established aborad:

(2) The various sizes of the flags for the purposes mentioned against (1), the central place of manufacture and the central store for stocks and sale;

(3) The framing of rules /........

(3) The framing of rules and regulations for prescribing the premises and occasions on which, and the officials by whom, the National Flag should be flown;

(4) Any other details.

2. The question is important and intricate and it is felt that it should in the first instance be tackled by a committee represented by the Ministries of Home Affairs, Commerce, Defence (associated with representatives of the Army, Navy and the Air Force), States and External Affairs and Commonwealth Relation It is proposed, therefore, to convene a meeting in which the Ministries specified above will participat fixed tentatively for Friday the 14th November 1947 at 3 p.m. in Room No. 104 South Block. Any change in the time and place of meeting will be duly intimated. The Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs will preside. It is requested that the Ministry of Commerce etc., will make it convenient to send their representatives on that date and intimate their nam in advance to this Ministry.

3. It will be helpful if the representatives come to the meeting sufficiently briefed with all availab information and expert advice on the points to be discussed.

A copy of a note on the various types and uses of the British Flag is attached.

(E.C. Gaynor)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Ministry of Commerce,
Defence,
External Affairs and Commonwealth
Relations,
States.

BLJ/- 1/11/-

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Note on important variations of the British National Flag.

1. THE UNION JACK is the most important of all British ensigns and is flown by representatives of the Empire all the world over. It flies from the jackstaff of every man-of -war in the navy. With the Irish harp on a blue shield displayed in the centre, it is flown by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

The Governor-General of India flies the Union Jack with the star and device of the order of the Star of India in the centre.

Colonial Governors fly it with the badge of their colony displayed in the centre.

Diplomatic Representatives use it with the Royal arms in the centre.

As a military flag it is flown over fortresses and headquarters, and on all occassions of military ceremonial.

Hoisted at the mainmast of a man-of war it is the flag of an admiral of the fleet.

2. The ROYAL STANDARD is a Sovereign flag and, even on Royal Palaces, is flown only when The King is actually present in the building (or in residence); for example, at the Palace of Westminster, known generally as the Houses of Parliament, the flag flown on the appointed days is the Union Jack, the Royal Standard being hoisted only while His Majesty is actually in the building.

There are also separate Standards for Her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince (ss) and other members of the Royal Family.

3. ENSIGNS/....

3. ENSIGNS are of three kinds, the White Engins, the Blue Ensign, and the Red Ensign.

(a) The White Ensign is flown by the Royal Navy and the Royal Yacht Squadrons, the chief of all yacht clubs. The man-of-war flies besides the White Ensign a long streamer from the maintop-gallant masthead.

(b) The Blue Ensign is exclusively the flag of the Public service other than the royal navy, and is as well the flag of the royal naval reserve. This flag is also flown by certain vessels of the British mercantile marine, the conditions governing this privilege being that the captain and certain specified portion of the officers and crew shall belong to the ranks of the Royal Naval Reserve. Various other authorities are also authorised to fly this Blue Ensign under specified conditions.

(c) The Red Ensign is the distinguishing flag of the British merchant service.

The Ensigns, it is important to remember, are purely maritime flags, and though the rule is more honoured in the breach than in the observance, the only flag that a private individual or a corporation has a right to display on shore is the national flag, the Union Jack, in its plain condition and without any emblazonment.

4. ADMIRALTY FLAG is a plain red flag with a clear anchor in the centre in yellow.

5. The flag of the master of the Trinity House is the red cross of St. George on its white ground, but with an ancient ship on the waves in each quarter; in the centre is a shield with a precisely similar device and surmounted by a lion.

6/......

6. The sign of a British Admiral's command afloat is the St. George's Cross.

7. Flags of Colonies: The flags of the British Colonies are the same as those of the mother country, but differentiated by the badge of the colony being placed in the centre of the flag if it is the Union Jack, or in the fly if it be the blue or red ensign.

In the Blue Ensign for New Zealand the device of the colony is a southern cross in the fly. The same flag with a large six pointed star, emblematic of the six states immediately under the union, forms the flag of the federated commonwealth of Australia. The flag of the dominion of Canada is a red ensign, the device in the fly being the armorial bearings of the Dominion.

Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, as the representative of royalty, flies the Union Jack with a harp in the centre. Colonial Governors or High Commissioners fly the Union Flag with the arms of the colony they preside over on a white shield in the centre and surrounded by a laurel wreath. In the case of Canada the wreath, however, is not of laurel but of maple, which is the special emblem of the Dominion.

8. Flags flown by British Diplomatic and Consular Offices.

The flag to be used by His Majesty's Diplomatic Servants, Ministers Plenipotentiary, Charges D'Affairs, &c. whether on shore or embarked in boats or other vessels, is the Union, with the Royal Arms in the centre thereof, on a white shield, surrounded by a green garland.

The flag to be used by His Majesty's Consular officers ashore, to distinguish their residences, is the Union, with the Tudor Crown in the Centre thereof, on a white shield.

The flag to be used/.....

The flag to be used by His Majesty's Consular Officers, when embarked in boats or other vessels, is the Blue Ensign, with the Royal Arms in the Centre of the fly thereof - that is, in the centre of that part between the Union and the end of the flag. The Consular Blue Ensign, being a personal distinguishing flag, must in boats be flown at the bow, and not at the stern, which is the accepted position for the national colours. No further flag is necessary, but if for some special reason it is desired to fly a flag at the stern, this should be the Red Ensign. The Consular flag is hoisted in boats only and not in ships except when a salute is being given to the Consular Officer concerned, when it is hoisted at the fore.

9. Every battalion of infantry in the British Army, except the Rifles, has two colours, namely, the King's colour and the regimental colour. The former consists for all regiments, of the union device, with the name of the regiment in the centre and the number of the battalion on the upper part near the staff. The regimental colour is of the same colour as the collars and facings of the regiment, but if these are white, it bears a Saint George's cross in red. On it are emblazoned the name of the regiment, the names of the battles in which it has served, and its various badges etc. Cavalry regiments and other divisions of army have variations of the standards.

10. Miscellaneous informations: Pendants or Buntings are flags generally used in connection with the use of signalling.

Shipping companies have generally square flags with distinguishing colours and devices.

A white flag is/.........

14

A white flag is universally used as a flag of truce.

A quarantine flag is yellow.

Vessels carrying explosives display red flag.

A flag exhibited upsidedown is a signal of distress.

A flag flown half mast is a signal of mourning.

Striking a flag is a token of surrender and placing of one flag over another is a token of victory of the former.

The dipping of a flag is a mark of respect.

BLJ/- 1/11/47.

(2)

(15)

18

MINISTRY OF E.A. & C.R.
~~-DEPARTMENT/OFFICE~~.

Draft Letter ~~Memorandum~~ Telegram

File No. Issue 23/5
Serial No. [illegible]

1. Date of despatch

2. List of enclosures

Mr. G.H.
10/11
[illegible]

16/11.

No. 2542-Pt Dated 16/11/47

From Foreign, New Delhi.

To Indembassy, Washington.
Indembassy, Moscow.
Indembassy, Nanking.

No. 2542-Pt/47

Date:

~~Sub.~~ Indian National Flag.

// Reference Foreign letters No.* D.4456-G/4 dated the 7th October 1947 and No.** D.4886-G/47. dated 5th November 1947. Grateful for very early reply as the whole question of the procedure to be observed has now to be considered urgently by a Committee. Please also indicate in your reply your suggestions as to the sizes of the flag considered appropriate for our Embassies and Consulates abroad and also the occasions on which they should be flown.//

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*Slip 'M', linked file.
** Corr. p/2 of Linked file.

Rd. J.N.
Ex. MBS
17/11

[illegible]
5 PM
17/11/47

S. 5. (Large).
MFP—418 S&P—6767—(M-770)—9-1-47—1,00,000 Pads.

(3)

MINISTRY OF EA & CR.
~~DEPARTMENT/OFFICE~~.

(16)

Office ~~XXXX~~ ~~Letter~~
Draft Memorandum
~~XXXXXX~~ ~~Telegram~~

File No. Issue tod
10/11

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch Recd. today at DSH KRN 11-11.47

2. List of enclosures

No. D.4531-AA/47 Dated 11.11.1947.

To

The Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

Subject: National Flag.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the O.M. from the Ministry of Home Affairs No. 87/2/47-Pub(B), dated the 2nd November 1947, on the above subject, and to say that the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations have already ~~drafted~~ addressed enquiries to ~~certain~~ Indian Embassies abroa on ~~certain~~ points mentioned in paragraph 1 of the O.M. In the circumstances, it is suggested that, if the Ministry of Home Affairs sees no objection, replies from these Embassies may be awaited before a meeting of the Committee referred to in paragraph 2 of the memorandum is convened. The Embassies concerned have also been reminded to-day by telegram to expedite their replies.

(T.J. Natarajan.)
Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of
India.

11/11

~~10/11~~

S. No. (1)

~~*F.R.~~

Rd. JN
Ex MBS
10/X1

11/11

(4)

Immediate

AS(6)

13/11

G
14/11

No. 87/2/47-Public.(B).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

~~HOME DEPARTMENT.~~

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

New Delhi, the 13th November, 1947.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

Subject:- National Flag.

****

S.No.(1) Reference paragraph 2 of this Ministry's Office Memorandum of even number dated the 2nd November, 1947 regarding National flags.

The External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry desire some time to collect information from their Embassies. The meeting fixed for the 14th November 1947 is therefore being postponed for the present. A further communication will follow shortly as to the time and venue of the meeting.

The External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry are requested to inform us as to the earliest possible date by which we can hold the meeting - their Office Memorandum No.D.4531-B/47, dated the 10th November, 1947 refers. It will be appreciated that the matter is rather urgent. S.No.(3)

A V Raman
(A.V. Raman)
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Ministry of External Affairs &
Commonwealth Relations.

Seen. File with M.

P. Natarajan
(14.11.47)

P.T. Br.

RSG- 13/11

(5)

18

D.4653-PC/47.

PT Br (3)
18/11

Telegram Enclair No.15214

From.....Indembassy Washington.
To.......Foreign, New Delhi.
No...428
Dated 15th (received 17th)November 1947. T.O.O. 1500
T.O.R. 1120

S.No.(2)

....

Your telegram 2542-PT dated 10th November required information in respect of flag forwarded my letter (*) F-94/47 dated 3rd November. From inquiries made it appears and fixed size is laid down for U.S.A. embassies and consulates and deciding factor is size of pole from which flown normal size of flags flown by British embassies and consulates is twelve feet by six feet but here again smaller or larger may be flown according to the size.

(*) not recd.

.....

PS TO PM(2) PT BR(3) SG JSX JSE JSC DSEII ASPT
C.R.WING (SECY & JT SECY) CABINET SECY

VH(17)*
17.11.47

(6)

D.4682-PE/47.

~~DS(PT)~~

On

gm G
20/11

TELEGRAM G.T.C.

15291

From......Indembassy, Moscow.
To........Foreign, New Delhi.
No. 46
Dated 18th (received 19th) November 1947.

T.O.O. 1745
T.O.R. 0745

S.No.(2)

Your telegram No. 2543 PT November 10th Indian National Flag. Soviet reply promised in five days. Will forward immediately on receipt. Your letter of November 5th not yet received.

*not up.

==============

PS TO PM(2) PT BR(3) SG JS(X) JS(E) JS(C) DS(E II)
AS PT: C.R.WING(SECY: & JT:SECY:)

D.Z.B.(16)*
typed 19.11.47.

(7). (20) AIR MAIL 13

Ministry of E.A.&C.R. ~~DEPARTMENT/OFFICE~~.
Pt. Branch

File No.
Serial No.

X. Letter
Draft ~~Memorandum~~
~~Telegram~~

No. D.4682-Pt/47 Dated 21-11-47

1. Date of despatch
2. List of enclosures.

Mr G 22/XI

Issue 20/11

KPR 21/11/47 To

Mr PS 20/11

21/11

S.NO.(6)

not up

Indembassy- Moscow.

Your telegram 46 November 18th. National flag.

2. A copy of this Ministry's letter No. D.4886-G/47, D/- the 5th November 1947 is enclosed.

The issue of the above has been authorised.

Sd/- T. J. Natarajan
A.S. (Pt)

Issue 8/12

⑧

(21)

Ministry of E.A. & C.R.

~~DEPARTMENT/OFFICE~~

Pt. Branch.

Draft Letter ~~Memorandum~~ Telegram

Enclair

File No.

Serial No.

1. Date of despatch [illegible] 8/12/47

2. List of enclosures

No. 2749-Pt. Dated 8th December 1947.

1. Indembassy, Nanking.
2. Indembassy, Moscow.

(to No.1 only) S.No.(2) Foreign telegram 2542-Pt November 10th.

(to No.2 only) S.No.(6) Your telegram 46 November 18th.

Indian National flag.

2. Grateful for very early reply.

Foreign.

Rd DA Ld 8/12.

Issue Pr

Please type the two telegrams separately

8/12/47

⑨ (22) D.507-PH/48.
Immediate 15

No.57/2/47-Pol.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

New Delhi 3, the 13th February, 1948.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

Subject:- National Flag - proceedings of inter-Ministerial meeting.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

① ✓
pp 17-24 infra

The ✓ ① Undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the proceedings of the inter-Ministerial meeting held under the auspicious (auspices?) of this Ministry on the 16th January 1948 to discuss various matters concerning the National Flag of India. It is requested that the comments of the Ministry of Defence, etc. be communicated to this Ministry within three days of receipt of this Memorandum. If no reply is received within that time, it will be assumed that the Ministry of Defence, etc. have no comments.

2. As regards the example of the South African Union referred to in 'A' of paras 2 & 3 of the proceedings, it may be mentioned that the Naval Headquarters representative (Lt. Commander A.K. Chatterjee) informed this Ministry subsequent to the meeting that the South African Union had broken off completely from the Dominion practice regarding the National Flag viz. that the present naval flag is a white ensign (white flag) with the national flag in the upper Dexter Canton, while formerly the Red Ensign (British) was used suitably defaced by the national flag. This gives a stronger reason for our breaking away from the Dominion practice; and we should be grateful for the views of the Defence etc. Ministry on the point. The Naval Headquarters representative also stated that they have in view the organisat on of Naval Auxiliaries for India for which suitable flags will h ve to be designed on the United Kingdom model.

A.V.Raman
(A. V. Raman)
Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of Indi

To

The Ministry Defence (Mr. M.K. Ganguli
Lt. Col. Dube, A.H.Q.
L/C A.K.Chatterjee N.H.Q.
S/L Besant Singh Air H.Q.)

States (Mr. C.Ganeson)

The Ministry Commerce (Mr. P.R. Subramaniam)

External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations (Mr.T.J.Natrajan).

Transport (Mr. Topan Lall).

The Constituent Assembly (Mr. Jugal Kishore Khanna).

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Proceedings of a meeting held under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs on Friday the 16th January, 1948 at 3 P.M. regarding the National Flag.

The meeting was convened to discuss -

(1) Adaptation of the National Flag for the use e.g. of:-

(a) Civilian,

(b) the Army, the Navy, the Air Force,

(c) the merchant shipping,

(d) the Governor General, Governor, the Prime Minister of the Dominion and other high ranking officers,

(e) the Acceding States of the Indian Dominion,

(f) the Embassies, the Consulates and other Diplomatic Offices of the Indian Dominion abroad;

(2) the various sizes of the flags for the purposes mentioned against (1), the central place of manufacture and the central stores for stocks and sales;

(3) the framing of rules and regulations for prescribing the premises and occasions on which, and the officials by whom the National Flag should be flown, immediate interim instructions being issued if necessary regarding :

(i) persons authorised to fly the National Flag and public buildings on which they are to be flown; and

(ii) use of the flag by the public, in advertisements etc.,

(iii) any other points not covered by the above relevant to the issue.

The representatives of the Ministries of Defence, States, Commerce, External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations, Transport and the Constituent Assembly were invited. The following were present:-

Ministry of Home Affairs:

1. Mr. R.N. Banerjee, Secretary.
2. Mr. R.A.Gopalaswami, Joint Secretary.
3. Mr. A.V. Raman, Assistant Secretary.

2.........

Ministry of Defence:

4. Mr. M.K. Ganguli, Deputy Secretary.
5. Lt. Col. K.P. Dube (Army Headquarters).
6. Lt. Commander A.K. Chatterjee (Naval (HQ).
7. Squadron Leader Basant Singh (Air HQ).

Ministry of States:

8. Mr. C.Ganesan, Deputy Secretary.

Ministry of Commerce:

9. Mr. P.R. Subramaniam, Under Secretary.

Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations:

10. Mr. T.J. Nataranjan, Assistant Secretary.

Ministry of Transport:

11. Mr. Topan Lall, Assistant Secretary.

Constituent Assembly:

12. Mr. Jugal Kishore Khanna, Deputy Secretary.

Mr. R.N. Banerjee and in his absence
Mr. R.A. Gopalaswami presided.

2. GENERAL:

The chairman invited at first general comments on the uses of the flag and measures to prevent its abuse, as also the question of adaptation of the National Flag.

The representative of the Constituent Assembly stated that the Constituent Assembly having designed the National Flag, it was for the Government of India in the appropriate Ministry concerned to take up the adaptation of the flag for the various uses in its administrative units concerned and frame the relevant rules and regulations thereof. It was also necessary to issue directives laying down definite rules to safeguard against indiscriminate use of the flag by the public and the misuse of the cherished and honoured symbol of the State in advertisements, etc., in the trade.

The representative of the Naval Headquarters pointed out that the overriding consideration in examining the question of adaptation of the National Flag would be that India is a member of the British Commonwealth and should therefore advisably follow the

3......

practice of the Dominions in the matter. It is, however, not necessary to follow blindly the prevalent practice as Indians, as a race, are different from the British. We could emulate the South A African example and adopt a distinctive national flag unlike the other members of the Dominion. This, the representative of the Constituent Assembly added, would be quite in order and there would be no constitutional impediment involved in breaking off from current Dominion practice. The Naval Head Quarters representative explained thereafter the use of the white Ensign by the Indian Navy on the War Ships, Merchant Ships and Government vessels at present, and also particular Naval Officers' flags and special uses when going on action.

War ships - Ensign - White Ensign;
Jack - National Flag;
Mast head pendant -
St. George's Cross next
to the mast with a white fly.

In addition to the usual white ensign, one or more White Ensigns of the largest size available in prominent positions to fly white in action.

Merchant Ships - Red Ensign aft at sea suitably defaced;
Jack at Harbour in addition to Ensign suitably designed by the Company;
Also on special occasions, a house flag (same as Jack) flown at mast.

Also merchant vessels fly the Blue Ensign when commanded by a Retired Naval Officer or officer of the Reserves under certain circumstances. In addition, Government Department vessels fly the Blue Ensign defaced by a suitable badge.

The representative suggested the following modifications may suitably be adopted for the Indian Navy:-

War Ships - White Ensign - To be worn by Indian Naval vessels ~~at~~ as present.
Jack - Indian National Flag.
Masthead pendant - Colours of the National Flag on the part of the pendant next to the mast with

a white fly.

One largest-sized National Flag be flown at a prominent position while in action.

Merchant Ships - Red Ensign defaced by Asoka's Wheel in black in the fly.

Jack - suitable emblem which the company may desire to use with saffron as the predominant colour or with saffron border and/or Asoka's Wheel incorporated in the badge.

House Flag- on main masthead similar to the Jack.

Other Vessles- Blue Ensign be continued to be used suitably defaced by Asoka's Wheel in yellow. Jack for merchant vessels entitled to wear the Blue Ensign should be XXXX the same as for Government vessels detailed below.

Govt. Department Vessles - To use blue ensign defaced by a suitable badge to denote duties on which employed, in yellow. This badge may be ringed with a saffron ring and the Asoka's Wheel in the badge, if possible. Jack for Government vessels should be the National Flag without the Asoka's Wheel defaced by the badge stated above circled with a blue ring.

Minister for Navy: To use Saffron flag with green and white border defaced by a horizontal stockless anchor in middle.

3. ADAPTATION OF THE FLAG.

Item (1) on para. 1 was then taken up. The Representative of the Naval Head Quarters observed that the suggestions for the adaptations described above could arise only if it is the policy to follow Dominion practice. This, he said, would be a great advantage from the services point of view. It would maintain intact the present associations with the British Navy. Also the Flag Officers are commissioned as Admirals of His Majesty's fleets and wear similar uniforms and the vessels of the Indian Navy are designated H.M.I. Shi It will be advantageous when sailing with other British vessels, as t Senior Officer would assume command irrespective of his being an Indi or British Officer.

The representative of the Commerce Ministry suggested t ruling should be obtained as to whether we should keep the association with the Dominion practice or break away from it. would no doubt be convenient if, as the Naval Head Quarters represe tative suggested, the present ties could be retained. Some of the Companies owning merchant vessles were, however, he said, of th view that we should start breaking off from the existing practic and adapt the National Flag for the merchant ships. This will i an amendment of the Merchant Shipping Act, as otherwise we canno use a flag other than the Red Ensign. The representative of the Constituent Assembly was of the opinion that we should take a long time view and adopt our flag accordingly. The Chairman also agreed that our adaptation of the National Flag should be such (a) as t establish the principle of Independence of India and (b) as to retain for India the balance of advantage by either retaining the Union Jack or discarding the same, as may be appropriate after due consideration.

A After a discussion, it was found that the example of the South African Union would, with suitable adaptations by the use of the National Flag and Asoka's Wheel, be a desirable compromise which wo serve both the immediate and long time purposes.

The Army Headquarters representative was concerned with only one item, namely the flag flown by the Commander-in-Chief, and Field Marshal. This was at present, the Union Jack. It was necessary that the officers of the lowest rank should distinguish the Commander-in-Chief and other officers in order to pay due respect to them. There were other distinctive flags for the staff officers which had nothing to do with the Union Jack. After a discussion it was decided that the adaptation of the National Flag was unnece and that the flag for the staff officer could be used for Commander-in-Chief with a superimposition of the Asoka's Wheel and cross-swords thereon. The staff officers could use a different design of the flag.

The representative of the Air Headquarters pointed out that flag of the Royal Indian Air Force was the light blue ensign of the Royal Air Force with the Star of India superimposed upon it (five star points round the Roundel which consists of three concentric circles of black (outer), white (middle) and red (inner)). On the 13th August, 1947, the Governor General and the Defence Minister agree that the design should continue to be flown by units of the R.I.A.F. so long as India remained within the Commonwealth. It was also agreed that units of the R.I.A.F. should fly this ensign at the 'gaff' while at the flag-staff head of all units should be flown the National Flag of India. This practice should continue. The consensus of opinion was in favour of the proposal; as regards what officers should fly the ensign and other flags appropriate to their ranks, it was pointed out by the Chairman that this was not within th purview of the meeting.

4. DISTINCTIVE FLAGS FOR CIVILIANS:

The Army representative questioned whether there was need for su a distinction and whether for such purposes adaptation of the Nationa Flag was necessary. The Chairman and others agreed that, apart from the Governor General and Governors, no other officials of State need have distinctive adaptations of the National Flag. If a distinctio was required, a suitable design could be devised and used. The Governor-General and Governors could have their distinctive flags or adaptations of the National Flag.

5. COMMERCIALISED USE OF THE SYMBOL OF THE NATIONAL FLAG.

It was agreed that measures should be devised to prohibit by law the use of the symbol of the National Flag in advertisements etc., in the trade.

6. USE OF FLAGS BY THE PUBLIC:

It was the view that indiscriminate use of the National Flag by members of the public would lower its honour. This should not, however, be prevented by any legislation. The aim should be to brin about a condition gradually by which the National Flag would be used only on days of national rejoicing.

7.........

This may be achieved by first restricting the use of the flag by officials of State (Government servants) and by proper education of ~~the~~ the public and propaganda as to the sanctity of the cherished national symbol and its use sparingly.

7. FLAGS OF ACCEDING STATES OF THE DOMINION.

The States representative observed that no special regulations were needed in this matter. States were already cooperating now with the Government of India in the matter of allowing the Indian National Flag to be flown on ceremonial occasions side by side with the State Flag. Each State also desires its own flag to be used profusely. It was not desirable to disturb the present harmonious relations. This was agreed to.

8. DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES:

The Representative of the External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry pointed out that the Diplomatic representatives Indiah abroad have been instructed to use the National Flag without any adaptations, as this was considered unnecessary. This was also agreed to.

9. GENERAL STORE FOR NATIONAL FLAGS:

It was agreed that the present system by which National Flags for civil requirements should be stored by the Defence authorities at their ordnance depots and that all civil offices, both central and provincial, should indent on these depots for the supply of the flags on payment.

10. LIST OF OFFICIALS ENTITLED TO FLY THE NATIONAL FLAGS AT THEIR OFFICES AND RESIDENCES AND THE BONNET OF THEIR CARS.

(i) Buildings: It was agreed that the existing lists in use should be brought up to date bearing in mind the ~~fkx~~ following principle that flags should be hoisted on buildings which are the Headquarters of -

(a) the Executive authority of the State,

(b) the Judicial authority of the State, and

(c) the Legislative authority; in Delhi, the Provincial Capitals, and District Headquarters and the offices of the representatives of the Govt. of India~~xx~~ in Indian States and abroad.

(ii) Residences: The flying of flags should be restricted to the representative of the States at the Head of the Federation, the Head of the Provinces in the State, representatives of the Government of India in the Indian States and the President of the Constituent Assembly of India.

N.B. The head of a State e.g. Kings and Presidents etc. of countries do not fly national flags but other distinctive flags. In a majority of countries a square flag is used. This was stated by Naval Headquarters Representative after the meeting.

(iii) Cars: Whosoever is allowed to use flags at residences can fly flags on bonnets of cars.

The Chairman also suggested that it should also be considered whether in addition to persons who can fly flags at residences as stated above, others should not be allowed to have the same privilege e.g., Hon'ble the Prime Minister of the Dominion, the Premiers of Provinces etc.

11. PUBLIC BUILDINGS: all other public buildings may fly flags only on occasion of public rejoicings.

12. OCCASIONS FOR FLAG FLYING:

It was agreed that flags should be flown on the following specific occasions throughout India:-

(a) His Majesty the King's Birthday.

(b) Indian Independence Day (15th August).

(c) Such other occasions as may be specified by the Central or Provincial Governments.

13. DURATION OF FLAG FLYING:

Sunrise to sunset.

14. HALF-MASTING OF FLAGS.

As may be directed by the Central and Provincial Governments.

15. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDING SIZES OF FLAGS, DISTINCTIVE FLAGS ETC.

This was a matter to be decided inter-ministerially.

A V Raman
(A.V.Raman)
Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of India.

M G / 16/2 Issue today pl 14/2

DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

Draft ~~Letter~~ / Memorandum / ~~Telegram~~ O.M.

File No.

Serial No

1. Date of despatch 14.2.48

2. List of enclosures

Mr Garry 14/2 1-20 pm

S. No. (9)

No. D. 507-PT/48 Dated 14th 2-48.

Subject.

National Flag - proceedings of inter-Ministerial meeting.

. . . . . .

The undersigned is directed to refer to the O.M. No. 87/2/47-Pub., dated the 13th February 1948 from the Ministry of Home Affairs and to say that the Ministry of EA & CR have no comments on the minutes of the inter-Ministerial meeting held on the 16th January 1948

Sd/- J. Natrajan.
AS(PT)

The Ministry of Home Affairs.

14/2

14/2

D. 5047-PC/47

(11) 33 (26

Secret.

27/XI

Extract from D.O. letter No.8/PA/MIN/47 dated the 16th November 1947 from A.V. Pai, Esq., Charge d' Affaires, Embassy of India, Moscow, to Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Secretary-General, Ministry of E.A. and C.R., Government of India, New Delhi.

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x x x

About the 22nd October we received a request from our Ministry to obtain information from the Soviet Government about their rules and practice regarding the flying of the National Flag. We asked the Protocol Department immediately, but up to date they have not sent a reply. When a personal approach was made yesterday, I was told that a reply would be sent within five days. The time that is taken by the Soviet Secretariat departments to reply to simple queries is extraordinary. Even making of engagements for personal interviews takes a lot of time. It is extraordinary that Soviet officials are so inaccessible. Access to even the smallest office is by means of passes and one has to pass through barriers guarded by military sentries. What a contrast to our practice in Delhi where people come without appointment and some times even barge into one's rooms!

x x x

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Page - 1
Secret
Collection No.
Not to be destroyed.
Keets Permanent
File No. 10 (69)-PH4>
1947.
ministry of External Affairs
+ Commonwealth Relations
Protocol Branch.
Pro
Serial
Nos. (1) to (11) only.
Subject.
Adaptation of
the
National
flag
for various
uses.
Previous References.
F.25(11) Pt/47
(Unbleached).
PO-88-897 (Goal) MFP-(6868/A/M-887) 8-7-40-85,00,000.
Later References.
NAIDLF01051749

Page - 2
Ministry of External Affairs and C.R.
D.No. 1531-P/47
(1)
1:
This Ministry is concerned
with the adaptation of the 'National flag'
for the Embassies, tha Consulates and other diplomatic offices of the Indian

Dominion established abroad.
Kes pages 1-22.
F.2,5(11) -Pt/17
B corres.
cbid

As a result of discussions in the file placed below, it was decided that our Foreign Service does not need any modified form of India's flag i.e. our Embassies and Consulates should fly the 'National flag' without any distinguishing ambellishments.

3.

The following comments are offered on xx other points under consideration

(1) Sizes of the flag.-

As regards
Law the sizes of the flag to be flown by. various diplomatic and Consular
and High Commissioners
representatives, it is suggested that the Ambassadors, in conformity with their
that may be
dignity and status, may fly the flag of the size prescribed for Provincial
provisionally
Governors ((21
21' x 14' Wes/prescribed by the Ministry of Home Affairs vide their circular letter No. 87/47-Public (B), D/- the 29th July 1947)

A distinction may be made regarding the sizes of the flag to be flow by our Consuls General and other junion Consular officers. The Consul General may fly the flag of the size used by High Courts, Chief Courts etc. (12' x 9' Wes provisionally fixed by the Home Ministry's letter mentioned above). The junior Consular Officers such as Consuls and Vice-Consuls may fly the flag of the size fixed for Chief Commissioners, Commissioners of Divisions, Deputy Commission ors or Collectors (6' x 4was provisionally fixed by the Home Ministry's letter mentioned above)

In countries
where the Consul or Vice-Consul has no superintending Consul General, he may fly the Consul General's flag.

(2) Rules for prescription of premises and occasions on which end the officials by whom the 'National flag' should be flown'.-

1.

The flag on the building of the Embassy, Consulate and other diplomatic
may
or quasi-diplomatic Missions www be flown throughout the year.
2. Only the Hasds of Missions may be allowed to fly the flag on their
of ficial residence. Other officials of the Mission may fly the flag only on
ceremonial occasions such as National festivals or any other days of importance
which
be so declared by the Govt. of India,
may be
3. Whan the Ambassador is out of his headquarters, the flag at his
residence may be hauled down.
4. Only the Heads of Missions should be allowed to fly flags on the

bonnet of their cars.
5.
Indian subjects resident abroad may fly the 'National flag'
on land, unless the Municipal Lew of the Foreign State in which they
reside prohibits the use of foreign flags.
ые
4.11.47.
on
ASCPT) 4.11.47
(from pre-page)
1. Some sort of distinction might be drawn between
the relative importance, of Ambassadors, Ministers and
High Commissioners in that order.
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2. A detention head of
a mission might be allowed
to fly a flag at his readence
at his residence as long as he is at
headquarters to indicate the fact, whereas the
office should
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occasions which will presumably be laid darty

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the Castuent Assembly or the Ministry of Home Affairs

3. The flag suggested for Consuls- General (12'x9) does not have the same proportions as the others (21' x 14' and 6'x4'): this cement be right.

G. FeMalike.
6.11.1947

* Slip 'M', linked file.

**Corr./p./2 of linked file.

F.R. and notes from page 1. I feel that if the Committee referred to in paragraph 2 of the F.R. has before it the material asked for in our communications to our Embassies at Washington, Moscow and Nanking dated the 7th October 1947 and the 5th November 1947, it would be in a position to reach tentative conclusions in the light of international practice. I explained the position on these lines to Mr. Gagner, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, and understood him to say that in the circumstances he would agree to have the date for the meeting of the Committee postponed until after the replies are received. At the same

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time we should remind the Embassies concerned to expedite their replies to the communications referred to. A draft reminder to them and an 0. M. to the Ministry of Home Affairs are submitted.

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(T. J. Natarajan.)
10.11.1947.
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Sd. T. J. Natarajan
14.11.47.
D. No. 46.53-pb/47
(5).
for information only. Replies from
Indian Embassies at Moscow and Narking
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Al
18.11.47
18.11.47.
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A copy of our letter of the 5th November
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be sent to the Embassy. Draft submitted for
approval.
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S.No. (7)
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Reference S. Nos. (2), (5) &(6). Draft
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After issue, Ministry of Home Affairs may
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Ministry of Home Afford (Mr. Gagner)
Ministry of EA & CR no. No. D.4682 - PE/47 st. 9. x11.47
Ministery Home than
D.S(G) may from
see notis at pp. 1-3 ante. Replie
from Moscow and Nanking
are yet due. We may there farve
reasonally hold the meeting in Jany next as tuggested
separately on our file. The suggerhans as to what
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Seen thanks.

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(Ministry of F.A. & C.R.
C.R.)
Reference notes from p. 4 auté. The
meeting of the National Flag Committee
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was held on the 16th January 1948.
be awaited. I Nomed to trouble,
A-S. (AH]
minutes.

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Concerned only with
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The decision contained therein accords with
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Page - 7
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Ministry of F.A. &
& C.R.

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For information only. The main file
the subject has been referred to the Ministry of Home
ou 20.12.47 under ufo so. 5046-A8/47. Will be
added to the main file ou receipt.
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Page - 8
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IMMEDIATE.
No:87/2/47-Puh (B).
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.
NEW DELHI-3, the 1st November, 1947
உ

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

Subject:- National Flag.

The National Flag of the Indian Dominion has been designed by the Constituent Assembly of India, but it is for the Government of India, in the appropriate Ministries concerned, to take up modifications of the National Flag for the various uses of its different administrative units, such as the Army, Navy etc., and to frame necessary rules and regulations for the use of the Flag and the prevention of its abuse.

The following points are therefore for urgent consideration:-

(1) The adaptation of the National Flag for the use eg. of: -

(a) civilians;
(b) the Army, the Navy, the Air Force;
(c) the merchant shipping (or Mercantile Marine);
(d) the Governor-General, the Governors,
Lad
the Prime Minister of the Dominion and other high ranking officers%3
(e) the Acceding States of the Indian Dominion
(f) the Embassies, the Consulates and other diplomatic offices of the Indian Dominion

established aborad:

(2) The various sizes of the flags for the purpoes mentioned against (1), the central place of manufacture and the central store for stocks and sale;

(3) The framing of rules /........

(3) The framing of rules and regulations for prescribing the premises and occasions on which, and the officials by whom, the National Flag should be flown;

(4) Any other details.

2. The question is important and intricate and it is felt that it should in the first instance be tackled by a committee represented by the Ministries of Home Affairs, Commerce, Defence (associated with representatives of the Army, Navy and the Air Force), States and External Affairs and Commonwealth Relation It is proposed, therefore, to convene a meeting in which the Ministries specified above will participate fixed tentatively for Friday the 14th November 1947 at 3 p.m. in Room No. 104 South Block. Any change in the time and place of meeting will be duly intimated. The Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs will preside. It is requested that the Ministry of Commerce etc., will make it convenient to send their representatives on that date and intimate their nam in advance to this Ministry.

3. It will be helpful if the representatives come to the meeting sufficiently briefed with all availahl information and expert advice on the points to be discussed.

A copy of a note on the various types and uses of. the British Flag is attached.

BLJ/- 1/11/-

To
(E.C. Gaynor)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.
The Ministry of Commerce,
Defence,
External Affairs and Commonwealth
Relations,
States.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Note on important variations of the
British National Flag.

Not now
Ph

1. THE UNION JACK is the most important of all
British ensigns and is flown by representatives of
It flies from the
the Empire all the world over.
jackstaff of every man-of-war in the navy. With the
Irish harp on a blue shield displayed in the centre,
it is flown by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.
The Governor-General of India flies the Union
Jack with the star and device of the order of the
Star of India in the centre.
Colonial Governors fly it with the badge of
their colony displayed in the centre.
Diplomatic Representatives use it with the oyal
arms in the centre.
As a military flag it is flown over fortresses
and headquarters, and on all occassions of military
ceremonial.
Hoisted at the mainmast of a man-of war it is the
flag of an admiral of the fleet.

2. The ROYAL STANDARD is a Sovereign flag and, even
on Royal Palaces, is flown only when The King is
actually present in the building (or in residence);

for example, at the Palace of Westminster, known generally as the Houses of Parliament, the flag flown on the appointed days is the Union Jack, the Royal Standard being hoisted only while His Majesty is actually in the building.

There are also separate Standards for Her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince (ss) and other members of the Royal Family.

3. ENSIGNS/...

3.

ENSIGNS are of three kinds, the White Engins, the Blue Ensign, and the Red Ensign.

(a) The White .Ensign is flown by the Royal Navy and the Royal Yacht Squadrons, the chief of all yacht clubs. The man-of-war flies besides the White Ensign a long streamer from the muintop-gallant masthead.

(b) The Blue Ensign is exclusively the flag of the Public service other than the royal navy, and is as well the flag of the royal naval reserve. This flag is also flown by certain vessels of the British mercantile marine, the conditions governing this privilege being that the captain and certain specified portion of the officers and crew shall belong to the ranks of the Royal Naval Reserve. Various other authorities are also authorised to fly this Blue Ensign under specified conditions.

(c) The Red Ensign is the distinguishing flag of the British merchant service.

The Ensigns, it is important to remember, are purely maritime flags, and though the rule is more honoured in the breach than in the observance, the only flag that a private individual or a corporation has a right to display on shore is the national flag, the Union Jack, in its plain condition and without any emblazonment.

4.

ADMIRALTY FLAG is a plain red flag with a clear anchor in the centre in yellow.

5. The flag of the master of the Trinity House is the red cross of St. George on its white ground, but with an ancient ship on the waves in each quarter; in the centre is a shield with a precisely similar device und surmounted by a lion.

6/......

6. The sign of a British Admiral's command afloat is the St. George's Cross.

7. Flags of Colonies: The flags of the British Colonies are the same as those of the mother country, but differentiated by the badge of the colony being placed in the centre of the flag if it is the Union Jack, or in the fly if it be the blue or red ensign. In the Blue Ensign for New Zealand the device of the colony is a southern cross in the fly. The same flag with a large six pointed star, emblematic of the six states immediately under the union, forms the flag of the federated commonwealth of Australia. The flag of the dominion of Canada is a red ensign, the device in the fly being the armorial bearings of the Dominion. Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, as the representative of royalty, flies the Union Jack with a harp in the centre. Colonial Governors or High Commissioners fly the Union Flag with the arms of the colony they preside over on a white shield in the centre and surrounded by a laurel wreath. In the case of Canada the wreath, however, is not of laurel but of maple, which is the special emblem of the Dominion.

8. Fla s flown by British Diplomatic and Consular
Offices.

The flag to be used by His Majesty's Diplomatic Serv. nts, Ministers Plenipotentiary, Charges D'Affairs, &c. whether on shore or embarked in boats or other vessels, is the Union, with the Royal Arms in the centre thereof, on a white shield, surrounded by a green garland.

The flag to be used by His Majesty's Consular officers ashore, to distinguish their residences, is the Union, with the Tudor Crown in the Centre thereof, on a white shield.

The flag to be used/.....

The flag to be used by His Majesty's Consular Officers, when embarked in boats or other vessels,
-
is the Blue Ensign, with the Royal Arms in the Centre of the fly thereof that is, in the centre of that part between the Unian and the end of theflag. The Consular Blue Ensign, being a personal distinguishing flag, must in boats be flown at the how, and not at the stern, which is the accepted position for the national colours. No further flag is necessary, but if for some special reason it is desired to fly a flag at the stern, this should be the Red Ensign. The Consular flag is hoisted in boats only and not in ships except when a salute is being given to the Consular. Officer concerned, when it is hoisted at the fore.

9. Every battalion of infantry in the British Army, except the Rifles, has two colours, namely, the King's colour and the regimental colour. The former consists for all regiments, of the union device, with the name of the regiment in the centre

and the number of the battalion on the upper part near the staff. The regimental colour is of the same colour as the collars and facings of the regiment, but if these are white, it bears a Saint George's cross in red. On it are emblazoned the name of the regiment, the names of the battles in which it has served, and its various badges etc. Cavalry regiments and other divisions of army he variations of the standards.

10. Miscellaneous informations: Pendants or Buntings are flags generally used in connection with the use of signalling.

Shipping companies have generally square flags with distinguishing colours and devices.

A white flag is/......

Page - 14

-5-

A white flag is universally used as a flag of truce.

A quarantine flag is yellow.

Vessels carrying explosives display red flag.

A flag exhibited upsidedown is a signal of distress.

A flag flown half mast is a signal of mourning.

Striking a flag is a token of surrender and placing of one flag over another is a token of victory of the former.

The dipping of a flag is a mark of respect.

BLJ/- 1/11/47.

Page - 15

1. Date of despatch

2. List of enclosures

M. Gett

10/11

*Slip 'M', linked file.

**Corr. p/2 of Linked file.
Rd. JN.
Ex. Mes
ори
1/5 1
10/11/27
(2)
MINISTRY OF E. A. & C.R.
-DEPARTMENT OFFICE.
Letter
Draft Memorandum
No.
Telegram
From
To
IS
2542-pt
Dated 10
File No. She 28/5
Serial No.
10, 1/47
Foreign, New Delhi.
Indembassy, Washington.
Indembassy, Moscow.
Indembassy, Nanking.
No. 2542-Pt 147
Date:
11
Subs (Indian National Flag.
2015
дарё
изи
Issue
Reference Foreign letters No. D.4456-G/4
Please
dated the 7th October 1947 and N. 'D.4886-0/47
dated 5th November 1947 Grateful for very
early reply as the whole question of the
procedure to be observed has now to be con-

sidered urgently by a Committee.
also indicate in your reply your suggestions
as to the sizes of the flag considered
appropriate for our Embassies and Consulates
abroad and also the occasions on which they
should be flown.
S. 5. (Large).
MFP-418 S&P-6767-(M-770)-9-1-47-1,00,000 Pads.
2

(3)
MINISTRY OF EA & CR.
DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.
Office Lotter
Draft Memorandum
XTelegramy
No. D .4531-14147
16
File No.
Serial No.
Dated 1.11.1947.
Issue tro
777
1. Date of despatch
New. Today
osten
2. List of enclosures
Gril
11-14-47
To
The Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.
OFFICE MEMORANDUM.
Subject: National Flag.
*F.R.
S.NO. (1)
Rd. JN

Eα MSS
соча,
The
The undersigned is directed to refer
to the 0.M. from the Ministry of Home Affairs
No. 87/2/47-Pub (B), dated the 2nd November
1947, on the above subject, and to say that
the Ministry of External Affairs and Common
address.
wealth Relations have already afted
L
enquiries to contain Indian Embassies abroa
on certain points mentioned in paragraph 1
of the 0.M. In the circumstances, it is
suggested that, if the Ministry of Home
'ffairs sees no objection, replies from
these Embassies may be awaited before
a meeting of the Committee referred to in
paragraph 2 of the memorandum is convened.
The Embassies concerned have also been
reminded to-day by telegram to expedite
their replies.
S. 5. (Large).
MFP 418 S&P-6767-(M-770)-9-1-47-1,00,000 Pade.
(T. J. Natarajan.)
Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of
India.

Page - 17
AS/
13/11
In G
14/11
(4).
(17
No. 87/2/47-Public. (B).
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
HOME DEPARTMENT.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.
Imediate?
The
New Delhi, the November, 1947.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

5.No.(1)
S.No. (1)
S.NO -(3)

Subject: National Flag.

****

Reference paragraph 2 of this Ministry's Office Memorandum of even number dated the 2nd November, 1947 regarding National flags.

The External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry desire some time to collect information from their Embassies. The meeting fixed for the 14th November 1947 is therefore being postponed for the present. A further communication will follow shortly as to the time and venue of the meeting.

The External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Ministry are requested to inform us as to the earliest possible date by
0
which we can hold the meeting their Office Memorandum No.D4531-B7
47, dated the 10th November, 1947 refers. It will be appreciated that the matter is rather urgent.

AV Raman
(A V. Raman)
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

To
The Ministry of External Affairs &
Commonwealth Relations.

seen. Fill with It.
iMetrajem
PT. Br.
RSG- 13/11

MG
18/11
(5)
D. 4653-PL/47.
not pled.
Telegram Enclair
From..... Indembassy Washington.
To..... .Foreign, New Delhi.
No...428
Dated 15th (received 17th) November 1947.
7 S.No. (2)
No.15214
T.0.0. 1500
T.O.R. 1120

Your telegram 2542-PT dated 10th November required information in respect of flag forwarded my letter F-94/27 dated 3rd November.From inquiries made it appears and fixed size is laid down for U.S.A. embassies and consulates and deciding factor is size of pole from which flown normal size of flags flown by British embassies and consulates is twelve feet by six feet but here again smaller or larger may be flown according to the size.

VH (17)*
17.11.47
PS TO PM(2) PT BR(3) SG JSX JSE JSC DSEII ASPT
C.R.WING (SECY & JT SECY) CABINET SECY

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J. G
20711
19
D. 4682-15/42
'V6 'A'S d
TELEGRAM G.T.C.
15291
From..

To...
No. 46
..Indembassy, Moscow.
..Foreign, New Delhi.
Dated 18th (received 19th) November 1947.
T.0.0. 1745
T.0.R. 0745
S. No. (2)
t not up
forward immediately on receipt.
Your telegram No. 2543 PT November 10th Indian
National Flag. Soviet reply promised in five days. Will
Your letter of November 5th
not yet received.
PS TO PM(2) PT DR (3) SG JS(X) JS(E) JS(C) DS(E II)
AS PT: C.R.WING (SECY: & JT: SECY:)
D.Z.B.(16)*
typed 19.11.47.

(7)
20
AIR MAT
Ministry of & MECA DEPARTMENT OFFICE.
2.1.2.
Pt. Branch.
MG
22/11
Issue
20/11
1. Date of despatel
2. List of enclosures.
X. Letter
Draft Memorandum
Telegram
File No.
Serial No.
No. D. 46 82-PM/47 Dated 21-11-47

Mi PS
20/4ply
21/4
S.NO. (6)
mol-up
2.
Indembassy- Moscow.
46.
your telegram 46.
November 18th. National
flag.
letter
A copy of this Plinistry's
G
No. D. 4886–47, D/-
the 5th November 1947.
is enclosed.
the issue of the above has
been authorised.
Sai
A:S.
2)

Page - 21
8/12
Ministry of E. A. & C. R.
1. Date of despatch
2. List of enclosures
DEPARTMENT OFFICEX
Pt. Branch.
Letter
Draft Memorandum X
Telegram
No 2749
21
Enclair
File No.
Serial No.

pt. Dated 8th December 1947.
Indembassy, Nanking.
2. Indembassy, Moscow.
(to No.1 only) S.No (2) Foreign telegram 1542-96 November 10th.
Rd DA
(to No. 2 only)
JJ
Issue Pre
+ (6)
Please type the his
telegrams separately
2542-pt
Your telegram 46 November 18th.
Indian National flag.
2.
Grateful for very early reply,
Foreign.
S. 5. (Large).
MFP-418 S&P-8767-(M-770)-9-1-47-1,00,000 Pada.

No.67/2/47-702.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MINISTRY OF ROME AFFAIRS,
***
New Delhi 3, the
OFFICE MENORAROOM.
13 in
D. 507-PH48.
tirmediate S
F
February, 1948.
Subjects National Flag - proceedings of inter-
Ministerial meeting.
The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the
Causpices?
proceedings of the inter-Ministerial meeting held under the
M 17-24

infier

auspicious of this Ministry on the 16th January 1948 to discuss various matters concerning the National Flag of India. It is requested that the comments of the Ministry of Defence, be

etc.

communicated to this Ministry within three days of receipt of this Memorandum. If no reply in received within that time, it will be assumed that the Ministry of Defence, have no comments.

@tc.

2. as regards the example of the "outh african Union referred to in 'A' of paras 2 & 3 of the proceedings, it may be mentioned that the Naval Headquarters representative (Lt. Commander A.K. Chatterjee) informed this Ministry subsequent to the meeting that the south african Union had broken off completely from the Dominion practice regarding the National Flag viz. that the present naval flag is a white ensign (white flag) with the national flag in the upper Dexter Canton, while formerly the Red Ensign (British) was used suitably defaced by the national flag. This gives a stronger reason for our breaking away from the Dominion practice; and we should be grateful for the views of the Defence Ministry on the point. The Naval Headquarters representative also stated that they have in view the organisat on of Naval auxiliaries for India for which suitable flags will h, ro to be designed on the United Kingdom model.

etc.

A. V Raman
(A. V. Haman)
Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of Indie

The Ministry Defence (Mr. M.K. Ganguli
Lt. Col. Dube, A.H.Q.
I/C A.K.Chatterjee H.H.Q.
S/L Besant Singh Air H.Q.)
States (r. C.Ganeson)

(23

...

The Ministry Commeren (Mr. P.R. Subramanian)

External Affairs &
Commonwealth Relations
(Mr.T.J.Natrajan).
Transport (Mr. Topan Lall).
The Constituent Assembly (Mr. Jugal Kishore Khanna).

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HINXBWAY OF BOWL AFFAIRE
24

Proceedings of a meeting held under the chairmanship
of the Recretary, Minister of Aire en ridax
the 16th January, 1948 at 3P.ll regarding the

The meeting was convened to discuss -

(1) adaptation of the National Flag for the use .g. of1-
(a) civilian,
(b) the Army, the Navy, the Air Force,
(a) the marchant shipping,
(a) the Governor General, Governor, the Prime
Minister of the Dominion and other high
ranking officers,
(a) the Acceding States of the Indian Dominion,
(f) the embassies, the consulates and other
\\#?
Diplomatic offices of the Indian Dominion abroad;
(2) the various sizes of the flags for the purposes
mentioned against (1), the central place of manufacture and the
central stores for stocks and sales
(3) the framing of rules and regulations for prescribing
the premises and occasions on which, and the officials by whom
the National Flag should be flown, impediste interim instructions
being issued if necessary regarding :
(1) persons authorised to fly the National Flag and
public buildings on which they are to be flown; and
(11) use of the flag by the public, in advertisements etc.,
(111) any other points not covered by the above relevant
to the issue.

The representatives of the Ministries of Defence, States, Commerce, External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations, Transport and the Constituent Assembly were invited. The following were present:-

Ministry of Home Affaiza:

1. Nr. 8.N. Banerjes, Secretary.

Mr. R.A.Gopalaswami, Joint Secretary.

3. Mr. 4.7. Rattan, Assistant Secretary.

2........

Ministry of Defencar

4. Mr. M.K. Ganguli, Deputy Secretary.

Lt. Col. K.P. Dube (Army Headquarters).

. Lt. Commander A.K. Chatterjee (Haval (HQ).

7. Squadron Leader Basant singh (air Bo).

8. Mr. C.Ganesan, Deputy Secretary.

Ministry of Commerce

9. Mr. P.ll. Subramaniam, Under Secretary.

Ministry of External affairs & Commonwealth Relations

10. Mr. I.J. Nataranjan, Assistant Secretary.

Ministry of Transport:

11. Mr. Topen Lall, Assistant Secretary.

Constituent Ansambly

12. Mr. Jugal Kishore Khanna, Deputy Secretary.

Mr. R.5. Banerjee and in his absence
Mr. A.A. Gopalaswami presided.

2. CABAL

Ibe chairman invited at first general comments on the uses of the flag und Dessures to prevent its abuse, as also the question of adaptation of the National lag.

The representative of the Constituent Assembly stated that the Constituent Assembly having designed the National Flag, it was for the Government of India in the appropriate Ministry concerned to take up the adaptation of the flag for the various uses in its administrative units concerned and franz the relevant rules and 4 regulations thereof. It was also necessary to issue directives laying down definite rules to safeguard against indiscriminate use

flag by the public and the misuse of the
of the cherished and honoured symbol of the state in advertisements, etc., in the trade.

The representative of the Haval Headquarters pointed out that the overriding consideration in examining the question of adeptation of the National Flag would be that India is a member of the British Commonwealth and should therefore advisably follow the

3******

practice of the Dominions in the matter. It is, however, not

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necessary to follow blindly the prevalent practice as Indians, as a race, are different from the British. We could emulate the "outh A African example and adopt a distinctive national flag unlike the other members of the Dominion. This, the representative of the Constituent assembly added, would be quite in order and there would be no constitutional impediment involved in breaking off from current "ominion practice. The Haval Head quarters representative explained thereafter the use of the white insign by the Indian levy on the war ships, Werchant ships and Government vessels at present, and also particular Naval Officers' flags and special uses when going on action.

War ships - Ensign - white insight
Jack - National Flag;
Mast head pendant -
St. George's Cross next
to the most with a white fly.
In addition to the usual white unsiga, one or more
White Insigns of the largest size available in
prominent positions to fly while in action.
Merchant Ships - and insign aft at sea suitably defaced;
Jack at Harbour in addition to insign suitably
designed by the Company;
Also on special occasions, a house flag
(same as Jack) flown at mast.

Also merchant vassala fly the Blue Ensign when commanded by
* Retired Naval Officer or officer of the Reserves under
certain circumstances. In addition, Government Department
vessels fly the Blue asign defaced by a suitable bedge.
The representative suggested the following modifications may
suitably be adopted for the Indian Navy-
as
War Ships - White Ensign - To be worn by Indian Naval vessels/at
present.
Jack - Indian National Flag.
Masthead pendant - Colours of the National Flog
on the part of the pendan: next to the mast with

3.
a white fly.
One largest-sized National Flag be flown at a prominent
position while in action.
Merchant Ships - Red Ensign defaced by anoka's wheel in black in
she fly.
Jack - suitable emblem which the company may desire
to use with saffron as the predominant colour or with
saffron border and/or asoka's Wheel incorporated in the
badge.
House Flag- on main masthead similar to the Jack.
Other Vesales- Blue Ensign be continued to be used
suitably defaced by Asoka's wheel in yellow. Jack for
merchant vessels entitled to wear the Blue Ensign should
the same as for Government vessels detailed below.
Govt. Department Vessles - To use blue ensign defaced by
a suitable badge to denote dusies on which employed, in
yellow. This badge may be ringed with a saffron ring and
the Asoka's whool in the badge, if possible. Jack for
Government vessels should be the National Flag without the
Asoka's bool defaced by the badge #tated above circled with
a blue ring.
Minister for Navys to use Saffron flag with green and white

border defaced by a horizontal stockless anchor in middle.
ADAPTATION OF FELAG.
Item (1) on para. 1 was then taken up. The Representative of the
Naval Head quarters observed that the suggestions for the adaptations
described above could arise only if it is the policy to follow
Pominion practice. This, he said, would be a great advantage from
the services point of view. It would maintain intact the present
associations with the British Navy. Also the Flag Officers are
commissioned as admirals of his Majesty's flesta and wear similar
uniforms and the vessels of the Indian Navy are designated H.M.1. Shi
It will be advantageous when sailing with other British vessels, as
Senior officer would assume commandirrespective of his being an Indi
or British officer.

Page - 28
..
28
A
The representative of the Commerce Ministry suggested t
ruling should be obtained as to whether we should keep the
association with the Dominion practice or break away from it.
would no doubt be convenient if, as the Naval Read quarters repres
tative suggested, the present ties could be retained. Some of the
Companies owning merchant vessles were, however, he shed, at a
view that we should start breaking off from the existing practic
and adapt the National Fing for the merchant ships. This will i
an amendment of the Merchant Shipping act, as otherwise we canno
use a flag other than the Red Ensign. The representative of the
Constituent Assembly was of the opinion that we should take a long
time view and adopt our flag accordingly. The Chairman also agreed
that our adaptation of the National Flag should be such (a) as to
establish the principle of Independence of India and (b) as to
retain for India the balance of adventace by either retaining the
Union Jack or discarding the same, as may be appropriate after due
consideration.
After a discussion, it was found that the example of the South
African Union would, with suita le adaptations by the use of the
National Flag and Asoka's wheel, be a desirable compromise which wou

serve both the immediate and long time purposes.
The Army Headquariors representative was concerned with only one item, namely the flag flown by the Commander-in-Chief, and Fiel Marshal. This was at present, the Union Jack. It was necessary that the officers of the lowest rank should distinguish the Commander-in-Chief and other officers in order to pay due respect to them. There were other distinctive flags for the staff officers which had nothing to do with the Union Jack. After a discussion it was decided that the adaptation of the National Flag was unisce and that the flag for the staff officer could be used for Commander-in-Chief with a superimposition of the Asoka's Wheel and cross-swords thereon.
design of the flag.
the staff officers could use a different

Page - 29

The representative of the Air Headquarters pointed out that Vlag of the Royal Indian air force was the light blue ensign of the Royal Air Force with the star of India superimposed upon it (five star points round the Roundel which consists of three concentric circles of black (outer), white (middle) and red (inner)).
On the 13th August, 1947, the Governor General and the Defence Minister agree that the design should continue to be flown by units
of the R.1.A.. so long as India remained within the Conconwealth. It was also agreed that units of the R.1.A.F. should fly this ensign at the 'gaff' while at the flag-staff head of all units should be flown the National Flag of India. This practice should continue. The consensus of opinion was in favour of the proposal as regards what officers should fly the ensign and other flags appropriate to their ranke, it was pointed out by the Chairman that this was not within the purview of the meeting.

4.

DISTINCTIVE FLAG FOR CIVILIANA

The Army representative questioned whether there was need for su a distinction and whether for such purposes adaptation of the National Flag was necessary. The Chairman and others agreed that, apart from the Governor General and Governors, no other officials of State need

have distinctive adaptations of the National Flag. If a distinctio
was required, a suitable design could be devised and used. The
Governor-General and Governors could have their distinctive flags
or adaptations of the National Flag.

5.

COMMERCIALIBED USE OF THE SYMBOL OF THE NATIONAL ELAG.

It was agreed that measures should be devised to prohibit by law
the use of the symbol of the National Flag in advertisements etc., in
the trade.

6.

DEE OF FLAGE BY THE PUBLIC:

It was the view that indiscriminate use of the National Flag
by members of the public would lower its honour. This should not,
however, be prevented by any legislation. The aim should be to bring
about a condition gradually by which the National Flag would be used
only on days of national rejoicing.

7.........

...

This may be achieved by first restricting the use of the flag by
officials of State (Government servants) and by proper education of the
the public and propaganda as to the sanctity of the cherished national
symbol and its use sparingly.

7. FLAGS OF ACCEDING STAL OF THE DOMINION.

the

The States representative observed that no special regulations
were needed in this matter. states were already cooperating now
with
the Government of India in the matter of allowing/ Indian
National Flag to be flown on ceremonial occasions side by side
with the state ing. Nach State also desires its own flag to be
used profusely. It was not desirable to disturb the present
harmonious relations. This was agreed to.

8.

DIPLOYA

The Representative of the External Affairs and Commonwealth
elations Ministry pointed out that the Diplomatic representatives

dish abroad have been instructed to use the National flag any adaptations, as this was considered unnecessary. This was also agreed.co.

It was agreed that the present system by which Rational Flags for civil requirements should be stored by the Defence authorities at their ordnance depots and that all civil offices, both central and provincial, 'should indent on these depots for the supply of the flags on payment.

10. LIST OF OFFICIALS MILELED TO FLY THE NAZIONAL FLAGS AT THEIR

(1) Buildings It was agreed that the exising lists in ure should be brought up to date bearing in mind the fix following principle that flags should be hoisted on buildings which are the Headquarters of -

(a) the Executive authority of the state,

(b) the Judicial authority of the State, and

(e) the Legislative authority; in Delhi, the Provincial Capitals, and District Headquarters and the offices of the representatives of the Govt. of Indioxx in Indian states and abroad.

(11) Residences: The flying of flags should be restricted

to the representative of the States at the lead of the Federation, the Head of the Provinces in the State, representatives of the Government of India in the Indian States and the President of the Constituent Assembly of India.

1.B. The head of a state 0.g. Kings and Presidents etc. of countries do not fly national flags but other distinctive flags. In a majority of countries a square flag is used. This was stated by Naval Headquarters Representative after the meeting.

(111) Gags Whosoever is allowed to use flags at residences can fly flage on bonnets of curs.

The Chairman also suggested that it should also be considered whether in addition to persons who can fly flags at residences as stated above, others should not be allowed to have the same privilege e.g., Hon'ble the Prime Minister of the Dominion, the premiers of Provinces etc.

11. ZUBLIC BUILDINGS

all other public buildings may fly flags
only on occasion of public rejoicings.

12. RASIONS FOR A FIXING:

It was agreed that flags should be flown on the following
specific occasions throughout Indias-

(a) His Majesty the King's Birthday.
(b) Indian Independence Day (15th August).
(c) such other occasions as may be specified by the Central
or Provincial Governments.

13.. ICH OF ELAQ ELYING

Sunrise to sunset.

14. HALF-MASTERS OF ELA.

15.

As may be directed by the Central and Provincial Governments.

DIHZARRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS HOLUNG EX28S OF FLAGS

This was a matter to be decided inter-ministerially.

AVRaman
(A.V.Ramen)
Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of India.

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Issue
16/2 18one today pl
MG
1. Date of despatch
2. List of enclosures
14/2
the Getty
14/2
1-257
(10)
DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.
Letter
Draft Memorandum

14.2.58.
Telegram
O.M.
32
File No.
Serial No
248.
No. D. 50 7. PT/48 Dated 1 - 2.
S.No.(9)
2he
aber
14/2
Subject
National Flag- proceedings of inter.
Ministerial meeting.
The und
under signed
is directed to refor
Home
O.M. No. 87/2/47 - Pub., dated the 13th
February 1948 from
The Ministry ot
Actairs and to say that the Ministry
of EATCR have no
minutes.
hels on the
of
Comments
On 27
the inter-Ministerial meeting
16th January 1348
sal. J. Naihajan.
ASCPT)
The Ministry of Home Affairs.
S. 5. (Large).
MFP 418 S&P-6767-(M-770)-9-1-47-1,00,000 Pads,

McG
20411
(1)
33
Secret.
D. 5047-86/47
126

Extract from D.0. letter No.8/PA/MIN/47 dated the 16th November 1947 from thx A.V. Pai, Esq., Charge d' Affaires, Embassy of India, Moscow, to Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Secretary-General, Ministry of E.A. and C.R., Government of India, New Delhi.

X
X
.....
X

About the 22nd October we received a request from our Ministry to obtain information from the Soviet Government about their rules and practice regarding the flying of the National Flag. We asked the Protocol Department immediately, but up to date they have not sent a reply. When a personal approach was made yesterday, I was told that a reply would be sent within five days. The time that is taken by the Soviet Secretariat departments to reply to simple queries is extraordinary. Even making of engagements for personal interviews takes a lot of time. It is extraordinary that Soviet officials are so inaccessible. Access to even the smallest office is by means of passes and one has to pass through barriers guarded by military sentries. What a contrast to our practice in Delhi where people come without appointment and some times even barge into one's rooms!

X
X
X
×

METADATA

Bundle Barcode	NAIDLB00032199
File Barcode	NAIDLF01051749
Location	NAI-Delhi
Identifier	NAIDLF01051749
Category	Public Records
Status of digitization	Digitized Document
Document Title	Adaptation of the National Flag For Various Uses
Keywords	National, Ministry, Affairs, Flags, Ensign, India, Indian, White, November, Meeting
Scale	
Ministry/Department/Residency	ministry of external affairs
Branch	PROTOCOL(PT)
From Year-Date(mm-dd-yyyy)	1947
To year-Date(mm-dd-yyyy)	1947
Geographical references	/
File No/Reference No/Sheet No	10-69-PT-47
Part No	
Physical condition of the record.	
Document last date of repair	
Series	
Source Organization	National Archives of India
Record Contains	
Language	English
Microfilm Roll Number	
Relation	

Copyrights	
Call Number	
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Subject	Adaptation of the National Flag For Various Uses
Creator	
Accesion Number	
Year of publication/ (YYYY-MM-DD)	
ERA	
Bundle no.	02
No. of pages	33